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# PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

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## UNITED STATES.

*First General International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics, held at New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., December 2, 3, and 4, 1902.*

### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTION.

[NOTE.—All of these resolutions were adopted unanimously.]

#### I.

*Convention to be governed by resolutions of conference in Mexico.*

*Resolved*, That the convention shall be governed by the resolutions agreed upon by the International Conference of American States held in Mexico in 1901 and 1902.

#### II.

*Time of detention and disinfection at quarantine.*

*Resolved*, That the time of detention and disinfection at maritime quarantine stations shall be the least practicable time consistent with public safety, and in accord with scientific precepts.

#### III.

*Yellow fever, mosquitoes, and quarantine.*

(a) *Resolved*, That measures of prophylaxis against yellow fever shall be based upon the fact that up to the present time the bite of certain mosquitoes is the only proven natural means of propagation of yellow fever.

(b) *Resolved*, That the Governments represented in this conference approve the measures employed in Havana for the prevention of the spread of the disease *on land*, for the isolation of cases and the fumigation of buildings, it being understood that said measures are based upon the principle enunciated in resolution (a).

(c) *Resolved*, That the prevention of the importation of the disease by vessels, wherein persons actually infected are found, must conform

to the methods employed on land, yet there are questions concerning the importation of infected mosquitoes that require further study before any decided modification of the quarantine laws can be recommended.

(d) *Resolved*, That the subject of bringing the quarantine laws to conform with the new doctrine of mosquito infection shall be referred to the International Sanitary Bureau of the American Republics, for report at the next meeting.

#### IV.

##### *Geographical distribution of yellow-fever mosquito.*

*Resolved*, That the different governments study in their respective territories the geographical distribution of the mosquito of the genus *stegomyia*, in order that said study may have practical application in subsequent conventions.

#### V.

##### *Garbage, lower animals, and disease.*

Whereas bubonic plague and other diseases are spread by rats, mice, and other lower animals, which, to a great extent, find sustenance in animal and vegetable kitchen wastes commonly called garbage; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That all organic waste or garbage shall be kept separately on the premises until it can be removed, unmixed with anything else, and destroyed.

#### VI.

##### *Typhoid fever and cholera—Disinfection of discharges.*

Whereas typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera are caused by swallowing food or drink contaminated by the discharges of previous cases; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That it be recognized by this conference that if all the discharges of every existing case of typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera were instantly disinfected, typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera would cease to be a menace to the world.

#### VII.

##### *International Sanitary Bureau—To aid and to be aided by the several Republics.*

Whereas the Second American International Conference of the Pan-American States, held in the city of Mexico October, 1901, to January, 1902, provided that a sanitary convention convene in Washington within one year from the signing of the resolutions on sanitation and quarantine, and shall elect an international sanitary bureau with permanent headquarters at Washington for the purpose of rendering

effective service to the different Republics represented in this Convention; it is hereby

*Resolved (a),* That it shall be the duty of the international sanitary bureau to urge each Republic to promptly and regularly transmit to said bureau all data of every character relative to the sanitary conditions of their respective ports and territories.

(b) And to furnish said bureau every opportunity and aid for a thorough, careful, and scientific study and investigation of any outbreaks of pestilential diseases which may occur within the territory of any of the said Republics.

(c) It is further resolved that it shall be the duty of the International Sanitary Bureau to lend its best aid and experience toward the widest possible protection of the public health of each of the said republics in order that disease may be eliminated, and that commerce between said republics may be facilitated.

(d) It is further resolved by this convention that it shall be the duty of the International Sanitary Bureau to encourage and aid or enforce in all proper ways the sanitation of seaports, including the sanitary improvements of harbors, sewerage, drainage of the soil, paving, elimination of infection from buildings, and the destruction of mosquitoes and other vermin.

(e) It is also recommended by this convention that in order to carry out the above measures a fund of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars shall be collected by the Bureau of American Republics in accordance with paragraph 7 of the resolutions of the Second International American Conference above referred to.

#### INTERNATIONAL SANITARY BUREAU.

Surgeon-General WALTER WYMAN, *Chairman.*

Dr. EDUARDO LICEAGA, of Mexico.

Dr. EDUARDO MOORE, of Chile.

Dr. JUAN GUITERAS, of Cuba.

Dr. JUAN J. ULLOA, of Costa Rica.

Dr. RHETT GOODE, of the United States.

Dr. A. H. DOTY, of the United States.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

*Record of work in Chinatown, San Francisco.*

[Telegram.]

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., *February 15, 1903.*

Following is the record of work in Chinatown for the week: Buildings inspected, 201; rooms, 1,900; persons, 2,797. Sick inspected, 46. Dead, 14. Autopsies, 3. About 300 persons were arrested by city authorities for violation of cubic-air-space ordinance. I will re-visit San Jose Monday.

GLENNAN.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.